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MULTIPLE GRADED STAKES WINNER FACTOR THIS TOPS GRADE II, \$200,000 WISE DAN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Wednesday, June 17, 2020) – **Gaining Ground Racing's** three-time stakes winner **Factor This** will lead a field of 11 older horses that entered Saturday's 31st running of the \$200,000 Wise Dan presented by Ford (Grade II) at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/8-mile Wise Dan, run on the Matt Winn Turf Course, will share the spotlight Saturday with the \$100,000 Audubon presented by TwinSpires.com, a 1 1/8 miles turf test for 3-year-olds. The Wise Dan was carded as Race 9, while the Audubon will go as Race 6. First post is 1 p.m. (all times Eastern).

Factor This, a previous \$62,500 claim in 2018, has won five races with trainer **Brad Cox**, including back-to-back stakes victories in the \$150,000 Fair Grounds (GIII) and \$300,000 Muniz Memorial (GII). The 5-year-old son of The Factor has been working consistently over the turf course at Churchill Downs with his pilot **Shaun Bridgmohan** aboard.

"He just looks like a more mature horse this year," said Bridgmohan, following his half-mile move in :47.60 on June 7. "He's filled out and really gained a lot of size. Even from the Fair Grounds this winter he looks bigger here at Churchill."

Factor This will try for his 10th career victory from post position No. 3.

Chief among the other rivals to **Factor This** is **Live Oak Plantation's** 2019 Wise Dan hero **March to the Arch**. Trained by **Mark Casse**, March to the Arch began his 2020 campaign with a victory in the \$150,000 Sunshine Millions Turf at Gulfstream Park and back-to-back third-place finishes in the \$175,000 Tampa Bay (GIII) and \$100,000 Appleton (GIII). March to the Arch traveled to California for his last start in the \$300,000 Shoemaker Mile (GI) but finished a disappointing 10th. **Florent Geroux** will be in the irons for the Wise Dan from post 7.

The complete field for the Wise Dan from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Just Howard** (Rafael Bejarano, Graham Motion); **English Bee** (James Graham, Motion); **Factor This** (Bridgmohan, Cox); **Eons** (Adam Beschizza, Arnaud Delacour); **Aquaphobia** (Corey Lanerie, Mike Maker); **Ritzzy A.P.** (Declan Cannon, Jack Sistreron); **March to the Arch** (Geroux, Casse); **Emmaus** (IRE) (Brian Hernandez, Connor Murphy); **Casa Creed** (Martin Garcia, Bill Mott); **Hembree** (Gerardo Corrales, Maker); and **Parlor** (Tyler Gaffalione, Maker).

The early National Weather Service forecast for Louisville calls for mostly sunny skies with highs in the low 90s.

For complimentary Brisnet past performances, visit www.churchilldowns.com/handicapping

JEFF RUBY STEAKS WINNER FIELD PASS LEADS \$100,000 AUDUBON

Three Diamonds Farm's Jeff Ruby Steaks (Grade III) hero **Field Pass** leads a competitive field of eight 3-year-olds in Saturday's inaugural running of the \$100,000 Audubon presented by TwinSpires.com at Churchill Downs.

The 1 1/8-mile Audubon, run on the Matt Winn Turf Course, shares the spotlight on Saturday's card with the \$200,000 Wise Dan presented by Ford (GII) for older horses at 1 1/8-miles on turf. The Audubon is carded as Race 6 while the Wise Dan is slated as Race 9. First post is 1 p.m. (all times Eastern).

Trained by **Mike Maker**, Field Pass finished third as the beaten favorite in last month's \$100,000 War Chant, the local prep race for the Audubon. The Maryland-bred was relegated 10 lengths off the early pace in the one-mile War Chant but rallied to finish only 2 ¼ lengths behind eventual winner **Smooth Like Strait**.

"He didn't get away the best in the War Chant," Maker said. "I think the extra distance and a cleaner trip will help his chances in the Audubon."

Leading rider **Tyler Gaffalione** has the call from post position No. 6.

Among Field Pass' rivals that entered the Audubon are **Godolphin's Pixelate**, who finished second in the War Chant; **Wayne Sanders** and **Larry Hirsch's** recent Churchill Downs allowance winner **Spanish Kingdom**; and **Waterford Stable's** multiple stakes placed **Summer to Remember**.

The Audubon field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): **Bama Breeze** (Corey Lanerie, Rusty Arnold); Spanish Kingdom (Brian Hernandez Jr., Joe Sharp); **Natural Power** (Adam Beschizza, Mark Casse); Pixelate (Mitchell Murrill, Mike Stidham); **Fenwick Station** (Declan Cannon, Eddie Kenneally); Field Pass (Gaffalione, Maker); **Kinenos** (Shaun Bridgmohan, Brad Cox); and Summer to Remember (Florent Geroux, Todd Pletcher).

The early National Weather Service forecast for Louisville calls for mostly sunny skies with highs in the low 90s.

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